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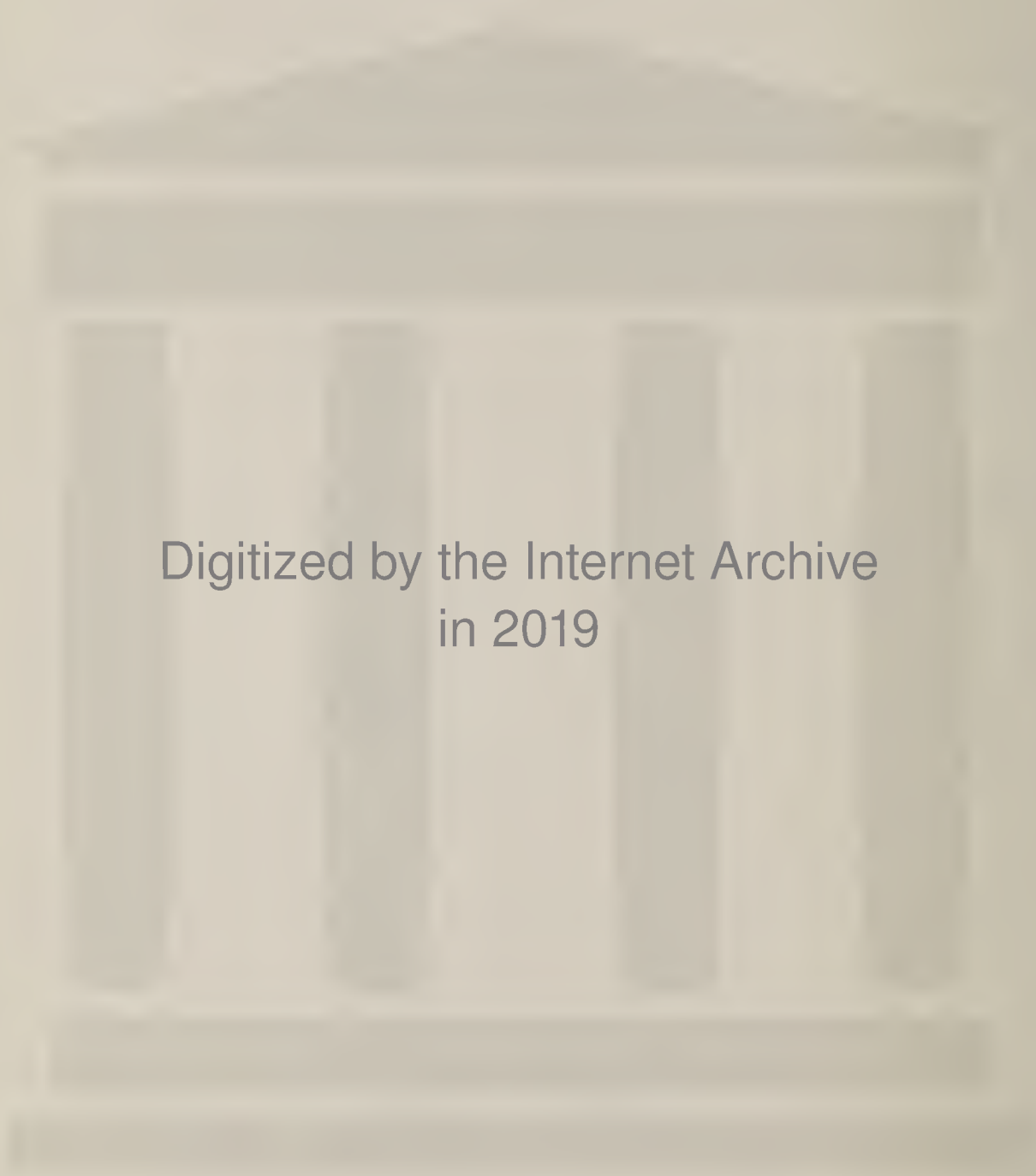
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The Genealogy of
Samuel Maclay

1741-1811.

*A Brief Sketch of a Prominent Citizen and Public Of-
ficial and a Genealogy of the Maclay Family
in America from the Year 1734*

By A. MONROE AURAND, JR.



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THE GENEALOGY OF SAMUEL MACLAY.

IN PREPARING a brief sketch of the life and genealogy of Honorable Samuel Maclay, we are torn between two emotions—the fealty we owe to the late Dr. William H. Egle, one of whose monumental works we know as *Pennsylvania Genealogies*, and historical data on *The Clan Maclay*, not long since compiled by the late William B. Maclay, Esq., of Belleville, Pa., a great-grandson of the beloved Senator, and friend of the people.

We make this remark due to the fact that Dr. Egle's dates in some instances fail to agree with Mr. Maclay's—or *vice versa*. To compensate for this we have supplied both dates, with the initial "M" for W. B. Maclay, when it occurs in the source attributed to Dr. Egle, to and including the first paragraph on page 10, and the initial "E" when it occurs in the articles supplied by Mr. Maclay from that page on.

Samuel Maclay was a brother of William Maclay, the latter becoming more prominent as the years go by for his notable "journal" of the First Congress of the United States, and perhaps in addition for his political, social and economic views of that early date which stamp him as being the real father of the then Democratic Party and its principles—antedating Thomas Jefferson with ideas, which later made Jefferson the so-called "father" of the Party.

These brothers worked pretty well hand-in-hand, and we may well conceive the idea that Samuel reflected many of the fine traits of his brother, William.

Senator Samuel Maclay was a descendant of the Clan McLeays, who made up an independent tribe and inhabited the country around Loch Achility in the Parish of Antrim, County of Ross, Scotland. During the reign of King James I of England, the lands of the Irish Earls of Tyrone, consisting of some 500,000 acres in the north of Ireland, were confiscated on the detection of their plot to subvert the English Government. This land was divided into small tracts and given by King James, who was a Scotch Presbyterian, to his countrymen on the sole condition that they would

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cross over to Ireland and settle on them within four years. The King's policy was to root out the native Irish, who were Celts and Roman Catholics, and supplant them with people of his own faith and blood. Some of the Maclays availed themselves of this tempting offer and settled in County Antrim.

On the restoration of the several Roman Catholic monarchs after James I, persecutions fell on the Scotch in North Ireland inducing thousands of them to come to America and accept the offer of William Penn — free lands, freedom of worship, and the making of their own laws.

The first of the family of County Antrim which history gives us mention is Charles, who was born about the year 1635.

The name "Maclay" as generally spelled in these parts, appears to be connected with that of McLeay, or McLeays, and it is the rather common error of many to spell the American "Maclay" in the Scotch fashion, "McClay."

Dr. Egle's *Pennsylvania Genealogies* arranges the line in the following order:

I. CHARLES MACLAY (1) by his first marriage had three sons. The name of the wife has not come down to us. By a second wife, JEAN HAMILTON, he had one son, who was the ancestor of the name in America. By the first wife there was issue:

- i. Owen*, was an officer in the army of James II.; followed the fortunes of that royal personage; remained a bachelor, and died in France.
- ii. Charles*, an officer in the same army; was killed in a duel with a French officer in Dublin.
- iii. Henry*, also an officer in the royal army; fell in the battle of the Boyne, 1690.

By the marriage with Jean Hamilton (Hawthorne—M.) there was issue:

2. *iv. John*, who married and had issue:

It is stated that Owen Maclay, returning from France, desired to take his nephew, Charles, to that country and educate him. His father, however, would not consent without a guarantee that the boy would be brought up in the Protestant faith. This the uncle refused, returned to France, and dying left his estate to strangers, probably to the Roman Church.

II. JOHN MACLAY, (2) (Charles, 1) b. circa, 1680; m. (JANE INMAN—M.) and had issue:

3. *i. Charles*, b. 1710; m. Eleanor Query.
ii. Eleanor, b. 1719; m. a Mr. Johnson, and remained in Ireland.
4. *iii. John*, b. 1721; m. Elizabeth McDonald.

(William B. Maclay in his "notes" states that Charles was born in 1703; John, b. 1707; Eleanor, b. 1709.)

III. CHARLES MACLAY, (3) (John, 2; Charles, 1) ("The Settler"), b. 1710, in county Antrim, Ireland; "sailed for America on the 30th day of May, 1734;" located in New Garden township, Chester county; but in 1742 settled in Hopewell township, Lancaster county, now Lurgan township, Franklin county, Pa. He died in September, 1753. Charles Maclay married, in 1733, ELEANOR QUERY, daughter of William Query, of county Antrim, Ireland. The latter came to America about 1740, settled in Path Valley, but subsequently removed to North Carolina. Eleanor Query Maclay was born in county Antrim, Ireland, in 1714 (1707—M.) and died in Lurgan township, Franklin county, Pa., July 27, 1789. Charles Maclay and his wife are both interred at Middle Spring church graveyard. They had issue:

5. *i. John*, b. May 10, 1734; m. Jean Dickson.
6. *ii. William*, b. July 20, 1737; m. Mary Harris.
7. *iii. Charles*, b. August 8, 1739; m. Mary Templeton.
8. *iv. Samuel*, b. January 7, 1741; m. Elizabeth Plunket.
- v. Eleanor*, b. September 20, 1750; m. John Maclay.

IV. JOHN MACLAY, (3) (John, 2; Charles, 1), "The Settler," b. circa 1721, in county Antrim, Ireland; came with his brother Charles to America in 1734; located in Chester county, and subsequently removed to Lurgan township, now Franklin county, where he died in April, 1779; buried in Middle Spring graveyard; he m. ELIZABETH McDONALD, who is buried by the side of her husband. They had issue:

9. *i. John*, b. 1746; m. Eleanor Maclay.
- ii. Charles*, b. 1748; recruited a company of militia, in the winter of 1777-8, of one hundred men, all six feet in height. At the battle of Crooked Billet, on the 4th of May, 1778, he was killed with most of his company, who refused to surrender. The killed and wounded were gathered by the enemy, thrown into a heap, covered with straw and fired. Thus perished some of the bravest spirits of the Cumberland Valley.
(W.B.M. says *Charles* was born in 1750.)
- iii. Elizabeth*, b. 1750; m. Col. Samuel Culbertson, "of the Row." Their descendants include Rev. James Culbertson, of Zanesville, Ohio; Mrs. John Rea, the widow of General Rea, who was a member of Congress from Pennsylvania for several sessions, and Rev. S. C. McCune, of Iowa; John Culbertson m. Margaret Greer; whose son, Thomas Greer Culbertson, resided at Wheeling, W. Va.
- iv. Samuel*, b. 1752; d. unm. (W.B.M. says: "He was an officer in the regular army and was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775)."
- v. Eleanor*, b. 1755; d. young.
- vi. Martha*, m. John Irwin.
(W.B.M. failed to include *Eleanor* and *Martha*.)

V. JOHN MACLAY, (4) (Charles, 3; John, 2; Charles, 1) was b. May 10, 1734, in Ireland, just twenty days prior to the sailing of his parents for America, from Belfast. He died October 17, 1804, in Lurgan township, Franklin county. He built the first mill on the Conodoguinet Creek and erected a log house of hewn timbers, strongly fortifying the windows

and doors against the Indians. A few years since this house was still standing. He was appointed a provincial magistrate in 1760, also a member of the Provincial Congress held in Carpenter's Hall in Philadelphia in 1776, which declared that they, on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania, were willing to concur in a vote of Congress, declaring the United Colonies free and independent States. He was also a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature for three terms, 1790-92-94. He was for many years an elder in the Middle Spring Presbyterian Church. On the 17th of December 1755, he married JEAN (or JANE) DICKSON, the daughter of David Dickson and Catharine Greenlee; she was b. in Ireland, December 20, 1734, and was brought to America by her parents in 1741; she died April 3, 1812, in Lurgan township, Franklin county, Pa. They had issue, all born in Lurgan township:

- i. Nancy*, b. 1754; d. 1761.
- 10. *ii. Charles*, b. May 23, 1757; m. Susanna Linn.
- 11. *iii. Catharine*, b. July 28, 1760; m. William Irwin.
- 12. *iv. David*, b. November 20, 1762; m., first, Eleanor Maclay; secondly, Eleanor Herron.
- 13. *v. William*, b. March 22, 1765; m. Peggy Culbertson.
- 14. *vi. Samuel*, b. November 16, 1767; m. Margaret Snodgrass.
- 15. *vii. Eleanor*, b. February 5, 1769; m. David McKnight.
- viii. Jane*, b. September 7, 1774; d. July 9, 1799; unm.
- 16. *ix John*, b. November 9, 1776; m. Hannah Reynolds.

VI. WILLIAM MACLAY, (4) (Chas., 3; John, 2; Chas., 1) b. July 20, 1737, in New Garden township, Chester county, Pa.; d. Monday, April 16, 1804, at Harrisburg, Pa.; buried in Paxtang church graveyard. While a lad of five, in 1742 his father removed to Lurgan township where he spent his boyhood days on the paternal farm. Attended the classical school of the Reverend John Blair in Chester County, afterwards studied law, and was admitted to the York County Bar on April 28th, 1760. He became interested with the Penns in making surveys of the Province. In 1772 he laid out the town of Sunbury, Pa., and built a stone home on the bank of the Susquehanna River, now occupied by the family of

the late Senator Simon P. Wolverton. In 1789 he was elected to the United States Senate, taking his seat as the first Senator from Pennsylvania. His private journal of the proceedings of the Senate when Congress met in New York City, during Washington's administration, is perhaps the most complete record we have of that historic time. In 1795 he was a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and was again elected in 1803. He was a Presidential Elector in 1796 and from 1801-03 was one of the Associate Judges of Dauphin county, Pa. On April 11, 1769 he married MARY MCCLURE HARRIS, daughter of John Harris, the founder of Harrisburg, and Elizabeth McClure, his wife, b. April 13, 1750, at Harris' Ferry; d. April 20, 1809, at Harrisburg, and buried in Paxtang church graveyard. They had issue:

- i. John-Harris*, b. February 5, 1770, "on Juniata;" d. s. p.
- ii. Elizabeth*, b. February 16, 1772, "in Paxtang;" d. April 19, 1794, unm.; buried in Paxtang.
- 17. *iii. Eleanor*, b. January 17, 1774, "at Fort Augusta;" m. William Wallace.
- iv. Mary*, b. March 19, 1776, "in Sunbury;" d. August 13, 1823; m. Samuel Awl.
- 18. *v. Esther*, b. September 19, 1778, "in Paxtang;" m. Dr. Henry Hall.
- 19. *vi. Sarah*, b. January 5, 1781, "in Sunbury;" m. John Irwin.
- 20. *vii. Jean*, (or Jane,) b. March 19, 1783, "in Paxtang;" m. John Lyon.
- viii. William*, b. 1784; d. 1785.
- ix. William*, (2d) b. May 5, 1787, "in Sunbury;" d. Monday, March 22, 1813, at Harrisburg; unm.

VII. CHARLES MACLAY, (4) (Charles, 3; John, 2; Charles, 1) b. August 8, 1739, in New Garden township, Chester county, Pa.; d. October 30, 1834, in Lurgan township, Franklin county, Pa. He lived a long and peaceful life not far from the old homestead. He m. August 23, 1763, (1762—M.) MARY TEMPLETON, b. about 1742; d. December 12, 1812. They left no issue.

VIII. SAMUEL MACLAY, (4) (Charles, 3; John, 2; Charles, 1) b. June 7, 1741, in Lurgan township, Franklin county, Pa. He died at his residence in Buffalo Valley, October 5, 1811, and was buried on his farm; subsequently his remains were re-interred in the cemetery at Dreisbach's church, near Lewisburg. He married, in 1773, ELIZABETH PLUNKET, b. 1755; d. 1823; daughter of Dr. Wm. Plunket, the first presiding justice of Northumberland county (1772), and noted in the annals of the State for the part he took in the Pennamite war. Dr. Plunket's wife was a daughter of John Harris, Sr., of Paxtang. They had issue:

21. *i. William-Plunket*, b. August 23, 1774; d. 1842, Milroy, Pa.; m., first, Sallie Brown; secondly, Jane Holmes.
- ii. Eleanor*, b. October 4, 1777; d. 1802; m. David Maclay.
- iii. Charles*, b. 1779; d. in 1807, unm., while on a visit to Wayne county, N. Y.
- iv. Esther*, b. 1782; d. 1807, in Wayne County, N. Y.; unm.
- v. Jane-E.*, b. 1786; d. January, 1848; m. Dr. Joseph Henderson, b. 1791, Shippensburg, Pa. He was appointed a first lieutenant in the army during the war of 1812, and at the close was breveted a major. When peace was declared, he resigned, graduated in medicine, and began the practice of his profession at Brown's Mills, Mifflin county, Pa., In 1832 and 1834 he was elected to Congress. After his marriage with Miss Maclay, he removed to Kishacoquillas Valley, where he remained until her death; in 1850, locating at Lewistown, where he married Margaret Isenberg. By his former wife there was no issue; by the latter, *James-L.*, *Joseph*, and *William B.* Dr. Henderson died at Lewistown, Pa., December 25, 1863.
22. *vi. John*, b. 1789; d. 1855; m. Annie Dale.
23. *vii. Samuel*, b. 1792; d. 1836; m., first, Margaret Johnston; secondly, Elizabeth Johnston (sisters).
- viii. David*, b. 1797; d. 1818; m. Isabella Patterson, daughter of Galbraith Patterson; d. 1861.

24. ix. *Robert-Plunket*, b. April 18, 1799; d. 1884; m. Margaret C. Lashells.

The foregoing lines are those found in the revised edition of *Pennsylvania Genealogies*, with a number of current corrections by the editor of this edition. Some time ago, amounting to several years, copy was handed to us bringing the line of Samuel Maclay down to the near-present; this was prepared by William B. Maclay, of Belleville, Pa., and is presented just as he handed it to us, with corrections noted, according to the source, either Dr. Egle, or the editor.

The First Son of Senator Samuel Maclay.

(*William P.*, No. "21" in Dr. Egle's scheme.)

William Plunkett Maclay, the first son of Senator Samuel Maclay, was born August 23, 1774, in Buffalo Valley, Pa. On December —, 1802, he married Sallie, daughter of Judge William Brown, of Mifflin County, Pa. In 1808 he was appointed Prothonotary of Mifflin County, which office he held until 1814, when he was elected to Congress to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Thomas Burnside. He was subsequently re-elected to Congress two full terms, 1816-20. In 1837-38, he was a member of the Constitutional Convention. He declined to sign the document framed by that body because of the exclusion of the colored vote. He was an elder in the West Kishacoquillas Presbyterian Church. On the death of his first wife, January 2, 1810, he married in 1812, Jane Holmes, of Carlisle, Pa. He had children by his first wife, Sallie Brown; Samuel, born in 1803, died in 1891; William Brown, born 1805, died in 1853; Charles John, born in 1807, died in 1828, unmarried. By his second wife, Jane Holmes, of Carlisle, Pa., Holmes, b. 1815, (1818—E.); d. 1869; David, born in 1818, d. in 189—; Robert Plunkett, born in 1821, died in 1881; Joseph Henderson, born in 1824, died in 1902.

The Children of William Plunkett Maclay.

Of these children, Samuel Maclay, M. D., the first son of William P. Maclay, was born near Belleville, Pa., October 5, 1803. He received his early education in the public schools of Washington, D. C., and graduated from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., in 1825, and from the Medical College of the University of Pennsylvania in 1829. On April 26th, 1827, he married Margaret Baxter, whose father was an officer in the English army. She died without issue, July 6, 1863, at Milroy, Pa. On the death of his first wife he married Mrs. Harriett Guinn (Gwin), November 22, 1864. She died June, 1886, leaving two daughters, Sarah Brown, born Sept. 7, 1865, and Ellen Margaret, born August 20, 1868. Both resided in Washington, D. C. A third daughter, Nannie Patton, born in 1867, died in 1872. Dr. Samuel Maclay died in Washington, D. C., December 17, 1891.

William Brown Maclay, second son of Hon. William P. Maclay, was born in Mifflin County, Pa., April 5, 1805, and died March 28, 1853. In October 1830, he married Eleanor, daughter of Ralph Lashells. Their children were: Sarah Jane, born in 1834, died in 1856; Ralph Lashells, born in 1836, died in 1866; Mary Brown, born in 1838, died in 1858; Elizabeth (Sterritt), born in 1842, died in 1891; Isabella (MacDonald), born in 1845, died in 1875; Ellen Margaret, born in 1848, died in 1861. They all died unmarried except Elizabeth and Isabella. Elizabeth married Abraham Addams MacDonald, a half-brother of General James A. Beaver. She died in 1875, leaving three children: Margaret Baxter, born February 21, 1869, now living in Knoxville, Tenn., unmarried; Anna Addams, born June 6, 1871, unmarried, now living in Harrisburg, Pa.; Ralph Lashells, born October 22, 1893, unmarried, now living in Niagara Falls, N. Y. Colonel Ralph Lashells, only son of William Brown Maclay, was born March 1, 1836. He studied law and at the outbreak of the Civil War entered the service as Captain of the 49th Pa. Volunteers. He served in a number of battles in the McClellan Campaign, but owing to ill health was compelled to resign. On partial recovery, he again went to the front and was commissioned a Colonel of the 18th Pa. Emergency Men, but his health again failed and he died in Milroy, Pa., June 11, 1866.

Charles John, the third son of Hon. William P. Maclay, was born in Union Township, Mifflin County, Pa., in 1807, died unmarried, in 1828, at the place of his birth.

Honorable Holmes Maclay, the fourth son of Hon. William P. Maclay, was born June 5, 1815, in Lewistown, Pa. He received his education in the Lewistown Academy and Washington College. On April 15, 1852, he married Isabella Plunkett Richardson, of Monroe County, N. Y. In 1862 he was elected to the Pennsylvania Legislature, and served one term, after which he was appointed postmaster at Milroy, Pa., which office he held until his death November 29, 1869. He had children as follows: Margaret Baxter, born in 1855, died in infancy; Mary Holmes, born in 1857, married Levi Glass and died in Kansas, in 1910; William Plunkett, born January 6, 1859, married Juniata McVey, of Mifflin County, Pa., and now (1928) resides in Columbia City, Oregon. They have two daughters, namely; Mary Gibson, born January 22, 1887, and Nora, born in 1895. One daughter, Wilma, died, aged three and one-half years. Mary Gibson married Edwin James Beaton; Eleanor, born in 1861, resides in Milroy, Pa.; Samuel, died in infancy.

Senator David Maclay, the fifth son of Hon. William P. Maclay, was born in Lewistown, Pa., June 9, 1819. On February 17, 1846, he married Elizabeth Plunkett Richardson, of Macedon, N. Y. In 1872 he was elected Senator from the Clarion District. A few years before his death he moved to Missoula, Montana, where his family then resided. He and his wife are both dead. His family consisted of three sons and seven daughters, namely: William Plunkett, born in 1852; Samuel, born in 1856, and David R., born in 1863; Jane Holmes, born in 1847, married Mr. Thomas; Mary Porter, born in 1849, married H. V. Curll (now deceased); Margaret, born in 1854, married J. N. Redmond; Elizabeth born in 1858, married a Mr. Wescott; Sallie, born in 1861, married Edward Rainford; Ann Means, born in 1867, married Chas. A. Guinn; Harriett Patton, born in 1869, married Mr. Goheen, who died leaving one son John, and one daughter, Margaret. Harriett afterwards married William Jamison and resides near Riverside, California.

Robert Plunkett Maclay, Junior, the sixth son of Hon. William P. Maclay was born May 16, 1821, in Lewistown, Pa. On November 25, 1857, he married Martha Barr, of Brown Township, Mifflin County, Pa. He died April 20, 1881. She died September 10, 1919, leaving two children, William Barr, born August 25, 1860, and Jennie Lendrum, born January 3, 1865. William Barr, on February 15, 1888, married Lizzie Mary Campbell and have children as follows: Helen Argyle, born January 8, 1890; Ralph Henderson, born June 26, 1891, married Helen Hubley of Lancaster, Pa., September 1, 1920, and have one son, Ralph Hubley, born June 13, 1922; Robert Barr, born November 16, 1893, married Grace Royer, of Mifflinburg, Pa., March 21, 1921, and have children as follows: Robert Barr, born January 4, 1922; Marlan Hugh, born February 6, 1923, died February 2, 1925; Harry Elwood, born January 17, 1924; William Nevin, born December 30, 1924. —Jennie Lendrum Maclay married W. G. Wilson, May 18, 1891. They have had three children: Martha Barr, born November 1894, died November 1903; Sarah Gonzales, born July 3, 1898, married Rev. Harry Davis Fleming. They have one son, Harry Davis, Jr., born August —, 1924; Mary Maclay, born September 4, 1899.

Hon. Joseph Henderson Maclay, the seventh and last son of Hon. William P. Maclay, was born November 25, 1825, on the old homestead farm near Belleville, Pa. On November 15, 1854, he married his cousin Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Judge Robert P. Maclay. She died leaving one daughter Margaret Lashells, who is unmarried, and resides at Belleville, Pa. In 1879-81 he represented Mifflin County in the Legislature. He opposed the Pittsburgh Riot Bill and was a witness in the bribery suits which followed. He was one of the 36 Republicans who refused to support H. W. Oliver of Pittsburgh for United States Senator. He died September 11, 1902.

(The Sons of Senator Samuel Maclay—Continued.)

Charles, the second son of Senator Samuel Maclay, born in 1779, died unmarried in 1807, in Wayne County, N. Y.

(John, No. "22" in Dr. Egle's scheme.)

John, the third son of Senator Samuel Maclay, was born in Buffalo Valley, Pa., in 1789, and died June 25, 1855, in Vandalia, Ill. On February 11, 1812, he married Anne, sister of Hon. James Dale, of Union County, Pa. He was register and recorder of Union County, also prothonotary for two terms. His children were: Samuel, born in 1813, died in 1835; Charles, born in 1815, died in infancy. Of William Plunkett, Elizabeth, and Anne, very little is known. All of the sons died unmarried, or without issue. Elizabeth married first, Mr. Armstrong and then Mr. Alexander, of Vandalia, Ill., and had issue. Of her family we can learn nothing. Anne died July 6, 1835. Samuel died in Buffalo Valley. Charles died in Illinois.

(Samuel, No. "23" in Dr. Egle's scheme.)

Samuel, the fourth son of Senator Samuel Maclay, was born in 1792, and died on February 17, 1836. In 1813 he married Margaret, daughter of Rev. James Johnston. On the death of his wife, he married Elizabeth, also a daughter of Rev. James Johnston. Of the children by the first marriage, it is only known that Samuel, born 1814, died in 1851, and James, born in 1815, died in 1848. They were residents of Cincinnati, Ohio, at the time of their deaths. Both died unmarried. Another son, (William, born in 1817), died in infancy. By his second wife, Elizabeth Johnston, he had children: Robert Plunkett, born 1819 (1818—E.); Charles, b. 1822, d. 1863; David, born in 1823, died unmarried; Margaret, born in 1827, died in 1863; John, born in 1825, died in 1867, unmarried; Elizabeth, born in 1829, died in 1884; Jane, born in 1830; William, born in 1833, died in 1856, unmarried. Of the children of the second marriage, the daughter, Margaret, married Thomas A. Briscoe, of Maryland. She died August 20, 1863, leaving one son, Samuel Maclay, and two daughters, Frances M. and Elizabeth, the latter deceased.

The notes on the children of Samuel Maclay (5) and his second wife, *Elizabeth Johnston*, are as follows:

Robert Plunkett Maclay resided in Waterloo, Ia.; he was a graduate of West Point, going through the grades of second lieutenant to captain, from July 1, 1840, resigning December 31, 1860.

Charles married a Miss Cox, of Franklin county, Pa., and had the following children: Elizabeth, married to M. H. Candee, resided at Washington; Nora, died May, 1885.

David studied medicine in Missouri.

John, died in North Carolina, during the war.

Margaret, married Thomas A. Briscoe, as noted above.

Elizabeth, second daughter of Samuel Maclay (5), died unmarried in 1884, in Galesburgh, Ill.

Jane, the third daughter of Samuel Maclay, was married on November 15, 1851, to Robert Clarke Johnston, of Shippensburgh, Pa. She moved to Iowa, where they resided four years and then to Galesburg, Ill., where she resided fifteen years. He died December 15, 1867. Her children were Charles Maclay, born in 1860, died in 1862; Bessie Maclay, born in 1864; Benjamin Clarke, born in 1866 and Sara Morse, born in 1868. Jane is noted in Dr. Egle's work as a "widow, in St. Mary's Indian school; Minnesota."

David, eighth child of Samuel Maclay (4), born 1797; d. 1818; married Isabella Patterson, daughter of Galbraith Patterson; died 1861. Galbraith was the son of Captain William Patterson, and Mary Galbraith. On the death of David Maclay, the widow, Isabella, married secondly Hon. Alex. L. Hays, who for forty years was judge of the circuit court and of the common pleas court in Lancaster. (See Dr. Egle's "Appendix" in U. J. Jones' *History of the Juniata Valley*, revised edition, 1889.)

(*Robert Plunket*, No. "24" in Dr. Egle's scheme.)

Robert Plunket Maclay, ninth child of Samuel Maclay (4), thus of the fifth generation in America, was born April 19, 1799, in Buffalo Valley, now Union county, Pa.; died August 16, 1884, in Kishacoquillas Valley, Brown township, in Mifflin county, Pa. His father died when the son was in his

twelfth year. The latter was sent, however, to an academy at Bedford, Pa., where he pursued a course of study for some time, and then returned to his mother's home, in Buffalo Valley. In 1833, he was elected to the Legislature from Union county, and served one term, later going to the Senate, serving until 1843. In 1844 he removed to Clarion county, and was afterwards appointed associate judge of that county. In 1854 he went to Missouri where he remained about three years engaged in the construction of the Iron Mountain railroad. In 1857 he returned to Clarion county, and in 1864, after the decease of his brother-in-law, Dr. Joseph Henderson, he went to reside in Kishacoquillas Valley, with his sons and grandsons. Judge Maclay was a very tall, well-proportioned man, with an intellectual cast of countenance. He died in the spring of 1884. Mr. Maclay married, May 6, 1825, by Rev. John Dreisbach, Margaret C. Lashells, born about 1801; died May 6, 1845, a niece of John Lashells, Esq., a noted lawyer of New Berlin, Pa., and daughter of Ralph Lashells, of Gettysburg, Pa. They had issue:

Samuel-Ralph, born August 11, 1826; m., and left issue.

George-Lashells, born July 28, 1828; died October 27, 1853; unm.

Charles-Maclay, born August 31, 1831; died November 25, 1865; m., and left issue.

Mary-Elizabeth, born 1834; married Joseph Henderson Maclay.

William-Plunket, born May 4, 1841; unm.

The Daughters of Senator Samuel Maclay.

Eleanor, the first daughter of Senator Samuel Maclay, married her cousin David Maclay, on September 8, 1795, and died in 1802.* Their family consisted of Samuel, born 1797; Jane, born 1799; Betty, born 1801. All died in infancy and with their mother* are buried in the plot on the farm in Buffalo Valley, Union County, Pa., where the remains of Senator Samuel Maclay were interred. By Legislative Authority of Pennsylvania, in 1908, the remains of Senator Samuel Maclay were removed from the family plot on the old Maclay farm in Buffalo Valley, to Dreisbach Church, near by, where the State erected a beautiful granite shaft to his memory. It was dedicated in the presence of a large

assemblage of descendants and citizens, October the 16th, 1908. The monument was unveiled by Helen, daughter of William B. Maclay, of Belleville, Pa., the only living great-great-grand-daughter in this State.

Esther, second daughter of Senator Samuel Maclay, died in her 24th year, unmarried, in Wayne County, N. Y.

Jane, the third daughter of Senator Samuel Maclay, married Dr. Joseph Henderson of Mifflin County, Pa., and died without issue in January, 1848.

* In the Annual Volume of *Notes and Queries*, for 1899, at page 170, we note under "Tombstone Inscriptions, Middle Spring Church, Cumberland County, Pa., Lower Graveyard:"

"Maclay, David, Esq., b. 1762; d. Feb. 20, 1839, on same stone.

"Maclay, Eleanor, dau. Hon. Samuel Maclay, of Northumberland county, Pa., who died 4th day of April, 1802, in the 25th year of her age. (Evidently mention of "Eleanor Maclay" is merely nominal in this instance with the remains at rest in Buffalo Valley.—Ed.)

"Maclay, Eleanor, wife of David Maclay and dau. of John Herron Esq., b. 1784; d. Feb. 23, 1825."

THE PUBLIC LIFE OF SAMUEL MACLAY.

John Blair Linn in his *Annals of Buffalo Valley*, (1877) at page 401 writes about Samuel Maclay, as follows: "Of his early education I can learn nothing. His field-note books, as assistant deputy surveyor to William Maclay, in 1767 and 1768, are before me, and indicate a cultivated hand. He next appears in 1769, as assistant to his brother on the surveys of the officers' tract, in Buffalo Valley. He surveyed largely in what is now Mifflin county, and took up a good deal of land there."

The first instance in which we note him surveying in what is now Union county, is on March 1-3, at which time he was about 28 years of age. Linn, in his *Annals*, in 1877, says: "He commenced at a white oak on now William Spotts' land, at the east line of what is now William Young's land, in Lewis township. The western line he ran N. 318 to Buffalo creek; thence he ran north of the present turnpike, until he crossed its site a little east of Vicksburg, and came to a white oak, yet standing (1877), one hundred and twenty-five rods east of where Salem church is now; thence he ran south to an elm on Turtle creek, and west and south-west to the place of beginning. This survey embraced the heart of Buffalo Valley, and, as their minutes say, 'was made without opposition.'"

In December of 1769, Maclay surveyed the lands in Dry Valley, now (1877) owned by Isaac Eyer, David Gross, &c.

In 1772 Samuel Maclay, with John Brady and George Wolfe, were named to settle a suit. In the same year Wendell Baker bought of Mr. Maclay the George Calhoun tract, moving onto same from York county.

It appears that Mr. Maclay *et al* were appointed about 1774 by the Court, to lay out a road "from the fording between Ludwig Derr's and John Aurand's mill through Buffalo Valley to the Narrows." Those appointees at the February sessions, 1775, "reported the first public road ever laid out by order of court through the valley."

On account of the approaching storm clouds of Revolution, we note that Mr. Maclay was, under date of 20th April,

1775, addressed from Sunbury, by Cas. Weitzel, relative to preparedness for the impending crisis. (See p. 76 and following pages, in *Annals of Buffalo Valley*.)

At the outset of the Revolution he was chosen lieutenant colonel of the Northumberland county associators, and was in active service.

At the February, 1778, sessions of the courts, Maclay presented a petition, stating that his servant had enlisted in the Twelfth Pennsylvania Regiment, and John Thompson and William Irvine (Irish) were appointed to appraise the time of said servant.

Samuel Maclay is noted as a member of the Assembly in 1787-88-89. Under the new constitution adopted September 2, 1790, superseding that of 1776, we again find him as a member of the Assembly, and again in 1792.

It seems as though much of his active life was spent as a voice, or servant of the people, and a champion of their rights.

The Buffalo Cross-Roads Presbyterian Church in October of 1787 engaged Rev. Hugh Morrison as pastor, the congregation agreeing to pay him £75 a year. Samuel Maclay is noted among the contributing members and among those able to pay more than the average. Four years later we find Mr. Maclay "occupying" pew No. 10, at a rate of £2 15s, retaining same until his death in 1811.

One of the fine contributions Mr. Maclay made to his native State, was his survey of the West Branch of the Susquehanna, in conjunction with the other commissioners, viz: Timothy Matlack, and John Adlum, appointed to do that work. The appointment came on April 6, 1790, and required a survey and examination of the Swatara, part of the Susquehanna, Sinnemahoning creek, and the Allegheny river, with a view to the promotion of inland navigation. The commissioners started in May, and were engaged most of the summer in their work. Mr. Maclay's journal of this expedition was for a long time in the possession of his grandson, Doctor Samuel Maclay, of Mifflin county. Just about one hundred years after it was written, the late John F. Meginness ("John of Lancaster"), published the journal in his magazine *The Historical Journal of Northwestern Pennsylvania*; also reprinting same in book form, with many valuable notes on the section of the State covered in the survey. The journal

is an important contribution to the source material on the northwest, and today is quite scarce.

In the general election returns for October 14, 1794, we note that Samuel Maclay defeated his opponent, John Andre Hanna, by 1979 to 871. His large majority was a general testimony as to the popularity in which he, as well as his brother William, were held by the people throughout central Pennsylvania. The Maclay family was well known in Chester county, as well as in Franklin, in old Cumberland, (or Lancaster), Dauphin, and throughout that vast stretch of land known as Northumberland county, which then included the counties in the north central section, noting especially Union, Snyder and Mifflin, wherein the Maclay interests were evident.

In 1795 we find for the first time, mention in Linn's *Buffalo Valley*, mention of any of the sons of Samuel—in this instance William P., in the April session of court, reported, with others, that they had laid out a public road from Dreisbach's church to the Presbyterian church at Buffalo Cross-Roads.

Linn, at p. 296, says: "William and Samuel Maclay were the influential men of the middle and western portions of Pennsylvania, and were decided Republicans. Buffalo Valley, ever since a hot place about election times, was doubly hot at this time (1795). Samuel Maclay's influence, from his good character and ability, was almost unbounded. Nevertheless, Mr. Morrison, (the Presbyterian pastor), led a determined few in opposition to the dominant Republicans. The result was, pew rates ceased in the Buffalo church," . . . indicating a scant half-dozen family heads continued paying toward church support!

"Mr. Morrison commenced preaching at Mr. Maclay from the pulpit, and Mr. Maclay refused to go any longer, and, of course, took the larger body of the congregation with him . . ."

"The difficulty between Reverend Hugh Morrison and Honorable Samuel Maclay terminated in a suit for slander. Morrison *vs.* Maclay, 101 August term; Evans R. Evans for plaintiff, Messrs. Moore, Cooper, and Roberts for defendant. It was regularly continued until 1817, when the clients and most of the lawyers had appeared before another bar."

In 1792 he was appointed an associate judge of Northum-

berland county, which he resigned December 17, 1795, having been elected member of Congress for the session of 1795-1796. In 1797 he was elected to the State Senate, of which body he was chosen Speaker, December 2, 1801, and again December 7, 1802. On the 14th of December following, he was elected United States Senator, and, being Speaker, signed his own certificate. In January, 1803, he presided at the impeachment trial of Judge Addison, and continued acting as Speaker (against the protest of the opposition, however, after March 3) until March 16, when he resigned that position, and on the 2d of September, that of State Senator. Owing to ill-health, he resigned his seat in the United States Senate on the 4th of January, 1809.

"Samuel was compelled to resign at the dictation of Michael Leib, the master of the Democratic 'machine' in Pennsylvania at the beginning of the nineteenth century," says George O. Seilhamer, in an article in the *Penna. Magazine of History*, volume 24, page 41.

Dr. Wm. H. Egle, in *Pennsylvania Genealogies* says: "Mr. Maclay was very popular in his manners, a good scholar, an efficient writer, and was one of Pennsylvania's ablest statesmen."

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